

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 NEA-10 DRC-01 /150 W

----- 057826

R 251545Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8521

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PO

SUBJ: OPPOSITION CANDIDATES AND SUPPORTERS

ARRESTED IN ELECTION DEMONSTRATION

SUMMARY: THIRTY-NINE OPPOSITIONISTS, INCLUDING 7
OPPOSITIONIST (CDE) CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY, WERE ARRESTED SEPT. 22 WHEN POLICE BROKE
UP THEIR MOTORCADE. ALL STILL IN CUSTODY. END SUMMARY

1. JUMPING THE GUN ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING, WHICH
IS NOT AUTHORIZED BEFORE SEPT. 28, LARGE GROUP OF
OPPOSITIONISTS ORGANIZED MOTORCADE IN LISBON AREA
SEPT. 22. IN COURSE OF DRIVE, PARTICIPANTS DISTRIBUTED
LEAFLETS CALLING FOR END OF "COLONIAL WAR" AND ASKING
FOR SUPPORT OF OPPOSITION CANDIDATES IN ORDER TO
PROVIDE "A BETTER LIFE, FREE OF EXPLOITATION, OPPRESSION,
POLITICAL TERROR AND WAR." PAMPHLETS LISTED CANDIDATES
AND NOTED ABSENCE FROM LIST OF ONE JOSE GOUVEIA, WHO,
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ACCORDING TO PAMPHLET, HAD BEEN ARRESTED ON JULY 21 AND

IS NOW UNDERGOING TREATMENT IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL FOR "GRAVE DISORDERS" RESULTING FROM "TORTURES" AT THE HANDS OF POLICE. PAMPHLET IS SIGNED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF LISBON DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION. TWENTY SIGNATORIES INCLUDE WIFE OF MARIO SOARES, 10 OPPOSITIONIST CANDIDATES, AND LEFT WING WRITERS SOTTO MAYOR CARDIA AND VILAVERDE CABRAL.

2. MOTORCADE PASSED THROUGH SEVERAL SUBURBAN TOWNS BEFORE POLICE BROKE IT UP. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE FROM POLICE, THEY SEIZED 14 CARS AND "VOLUMINOUS PROPAGANDA MATERIAL" AND ARRESTED 28 PERSONS. ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE RELEASED BY DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION HEADQUARTERS, 39 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED, INCLUDING JOSE TENGARRINHA, ONLY PROMINENT OPPOSITIONIST CANDIDATE IN LISBON, AND 6 OTHER CANDIDATES. FIGURE OF 39 CONFIRMED BY PRESS SOURCE.

3. POLICE HAVE OFFERED TO RELEASE CANDIDATES AND SUPPORTERS IF THEY SIGN UNDERTAKING TO REFRAIN FROM CRITICISM OF GOP'S DEFENSE OF AFRICAN TERRITORIES AND POST BONDS RANGING FROM \$400 TO \$800, ACCORDING TO PRESS SOURCE. CDE REPORTEDLY HAS THUS FAR REFUSED THESE CONDITIONS, AND HAS PETITIONED PM CAETANO FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE 39.

4. POLICE COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT PRE-ELECTION PERIOD MAY NOT BE ABUSED FOR "SOCIAL AGITATION BY CLANDESTINE ORGANIZATIONS TIED TO TERRORISTS MOVEMENTS WHICH WE ARE FIGHTING OVERSEAS." IN ADDITION, COMMUNIQUE REITERATES LEGAL PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR MEETINGS OR DEMONSTRATIONS.
POST

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ELECTIONS, ARRESTS, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LISBON03515
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730913/aaaaajaj.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <01-Nov-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPPOSITION CANDIDATES AND SUPPORTERS ARRESTED IN ELECTION DEMONSTRATION
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005